

Amendment to the Specification

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 11, line 5 as follows:

FIG. 4 represents the quality of surface morphology obtained for the cap layer 13 when the total thickness L_w of the optical absorption layer 12A and the strain ϵ_w therein are changed variously under the constraint that the total thickness L of the superlattice structure 12, and hence the sum of the total thicknesses of the optical absorption layers 12A and the strain-compensating layers 12B, is set to $1.3 \mu\text{m}$. From the relationship of Eq. (1), the strain ϵ_b in the strain-compensating layer 12B is given as $\epsilon_b = \epsilon_w \cdot L_w/L_b$. In FIG. 4, the case in which a flat surface morphology is obtained for the cap layer 13 is represented by ~~by~~ by \bigcirc , while the case in which an irregular surface morphology is obtained is represented by \times .